



# *Supervisor Bill Horn's* **NEWS & REVIEWS**



5th District, County of San Diego

Spring 2010

## **ANTI-TAX RALLY**

On April 15th, I was at one of many rallies that were held all over San Diego County for people, like me, who are fed up and demanding change in the way our state and federal governments manage our money.

April 15th should be printed in red on all calendars, because that is the day when we are reminded of how the state and federal governments take our hard-earned dollars and turn them into a Mount Everest of debt.

The ruling majority of elected officials

in Sacramento and Washington show no sign of restoring fiscal sanity and bringing government under control.

I have suggested ways to reverse the skid and get things back on track, just as a driver should react if their car is skidding out of control. The first thing to do is reduce speed. In government, that means taking its foot off the spending accelerator. If the car is fishtailing to the right, steer to the right. In Sacramento and Washington, the wheel is being turned in the

opposite direction of common sense. The result is even more out of control fiscal mismanagement.

There must be a clear, meaningful course to recovery, not artificial stimulus packages that so far, have had little impact in resuscitating our economy. Legislators in Sacramento and Washington have panicked. They have bailed out entire industries, damaged our free enterprise system, and threaten to undermine the best health care system in the world. Furthermore, many worship at the altar of environmental extremism that has resulted in potentially catastrophic water shortages and a construction industry that is at a virtual standstill. These people are convinced that more government control and spending will solve our problems. They have forgotten Ronald Reagan's reminder that "Government is not the solution to our problem, government IS the problem."

Stop the frivolous spending, don't pile on more taxes and think about creating a reserve for so-called "rainy days." That's what we have done at the County of San Diego and that's why we have the highest credit rating possible.

We have done this despite having to provide services that are either unfunded or only partially funded. It is legalized thievery as the State consistently steals local taxpayer dollars to backfill its bloated budget.

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Unfortunately, the people who suffer the most are children and seniors.

Fifty-seven percent of our state revenue goes to education (K-12: 43.4% and higher education: 14.3%). This does not include funding from special Mello-Roos fees. Public schools spend about \$8,000 per pupil for the school year. With most schools having about 30-35 students per class, that is a quarter million dollars per classroom. You would think that money would result in academic excellence. Most studies show California to be near the bottom in national rankings, with our

state ranked next to last in states where the adult population has at least a high school education.

I see that one approach to solve school funding challenges is to keep shortening the school year while maintaining salaries and class size. Under that formula how long will it be until the school year is one month long?

As a County Supervisor, I do what I can to manage taxpayer dollars with fiscal integrity while providing for the public's safety and caring for our neediest. And while we have been successful in being prudent stewards for

the people we serve, the same is not true in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C.

The voices of those who demanded reform on April 15th must result in a change in the way elected leaders do the people's business. I invite you to go to [www.usdebtclock.org](http://www.usdebtclock.org). It shows the federal deficit, our federal spending and what they are costing us. The trillions in debt break down to about \$41,000 per citizen and \$116,000 per taxpayer. The majority voices of those in Sacramento and Washington talk about more taxes and more debt. The clock is ticking and it is later than they think. ■

## Supporting the Boy Scouts of America



**100 Years of Developing America's Youth**

*Supervisor Horn presents a proclamation honoring the Boy Scouts of America.*

On April 27th, I was honored to recognize the Boy Scouts of America on its 100th Anniversary; a century of distinguished service in developing our nation's youth while encouraging patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and personal values.

I presented a proclamation to Scout leaders prior to a Board of Supervisors' meeting as we commended Boy Scouts of America and declared 2010 as "The Year of Boy Scouts of America" throughout San Diego County.

Sharing my respect and admiration for the Boy Scouts are Assembly Republican Leader Martin Garrick of Encinitas and Assemblyman Curt Hagman of San Bernardino who introduced Assembly Concurrent Resolution 119 to honor the Boy Scouts on their 100th Anniversary. Unfortunately, the Resolution never made it out of committee with Assembly Democrats voting to defeat it. The analysis of the bill, written by the Democrat staff called the resolution "A CONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION."

In the last ten years, similar resolutions honoring the Boy Scouts have been defeated eight different times by those in charge in Sacramento.

During the last 100 years, the Boy Scouts contributed to the leadership training of several Presidents, 179 astronauts and 212 current members of Congress. I was a Boy Scout in Troop 524 in Pacific Beach.

Our local Boy Scouts through the San Diego-Imperial Council headquartered in San Diego do a tremendous job with each scout performing at least 12 hours of community service yearly. Nationwide that works out to more than 30 million community service hours each year for an organization primarily made up of adult volunteer leaders.

The Boy Scouts of America develop citizens who appreciate the principles of America's social, economic, and governmental systems; take pride in their heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; respect the basic rights of all people, and prepare to give leadership to the American society. ■



## Creating New Jobs in North County

With San Diego County's unemployment rate around 11%, it seems that our region's economic recovery will take longer than many other parts of the country. Therefore, elected officials and community leaders must focus on creating new jobs. Many local governments have found it difficult to continue building projects over the last few years, resulting in reduced jobs available for small contractors as the economic and State budget crises squeeze local governments.

We must create new jobs in our region, which is why I will be teaming with San Diego North Economic Development Council President Gary Knight to sponsor and participate in an important event called "Creating Jobs in North County." On May

13th at 7:30 A.M. at the Sheraton Hotel in Carlsbad, we will host a large gathering of contractors and business professionals. The focus will center on upcoming construction jobs and the future of growth in San Diego County. The event will feature presentations by the Airport Authority and Camp Pendleton about upcoming construction projects and how small contractors and business leaders can bid for these important jobs. In addition, Gary and I will lead a discussion with the Economic Development Council Board of Directors, on how local governments and municipalities can best initiate new construction and job growth in North County. For further information please call my office at (619) 531-5555. ■

## New Wheels for the Kids

I was honored to provide a grant of \$30,000 from our Neighborhood Reinvestment Program to partner with the City of Vista and the Parker Foundation to provide a new 24-passenger bus to pick up kids at school next year and transport them to the Boys & Girls Club of Vista. Right now the children are picked up from Breeze Hill, Maryland, Lake, Temple Heights, Empresa, Hannalei and Grapevine schools.

Established in 1963, the Boys & Girls Club of Vista fosters a safe, positive and fun environment for North County's youth and encourages them to reach their full potential as responsible and productive citizens.

Special thanks to Matt Koumaras, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Vista and his fantastic staff. ■

## Preserving Carlsbad's Treasured Lagoon

One of the landmark gems of North County is the Agua Hedionda Lagoon in Carlsbad. While Agua Hedionda means "stinking water" in English, a description given by the first Spanish explorers, the lagoon is now one of North County's most valued ecological preserves.

The lagoon is unusual, in that recreational and commercial uses are permitted; yet the wetland is a healthy, tidal body supporting several endangered species. The Agua Hedionda Foundation has been working to nurture the lagoon's role in our environment since 1990. I had the pleasure of touring the Discovery Center last month.

I was honored to award a \$100,000 grant from our discretionary Neighborhood Reinvestment Program to the Foundation to assist with upgrading the existing Discovery Center and upgrading the facility with the installation of new exhibits.

The majority of the lagoon is owned and maintained by Cabrillo Power II. I appreciate the tremendous cooperation the power plant has with the City of Carlsbad and the Lagoon Foundation. The Foundation has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Carlsbad Desalination Project to build a 50 million-gallon-per-day seawater desalination plant adjacent to the lagoon.

Congratulations to Foundation executive director Ron Sipiora and his dedicated team for their commitment and service to North County.

## AVOCADO FESTIVAL

Once again the Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce did a tremendous job in organizing the event and hundreds of volunteers made the day a success.

There were more than 350 booths offering a full spectrum of food, clothing, souvenirs and services.

Kids had a blast with the Best Dressed Avocado Contest and the Avo 500 race where children were given free supplies to build an avocado race car and compete in the stock car race.

Offsite attractions for the day included the Fallbrook Airpark, Fallbrook Historical Society Museum, and the Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society Museum.

I hope many of you were able to catch the progress on our new library at Alvarado and Mission that is well on the way to being the centerpiece of the Village. Work is on schedule and on budget and should be completed in the Fall.

I appreciate the work of new Chamber CEO Richard Kennedy, Kathie Richards, Sheriff Lt. Phil Brust who leads the Fallbrook substation, his outstanding deputies and Volunteer Patrol who provided security, our Public Works Department, and a special thank you to the Village News staff for their participation in the showcase event of the year. ■



*Supervisor Horn with members of the Senior Volunteer Patrol (from left to right) Dennis Knight (Fallbrook), Joe Fahey (Fallbrook), Dale Kephart (Lakeside) and Jim Byers (Fallbrook).*

### Future Events

**May 6, 2010:** Supervisor Horn hosting his 10th Annual Prayer at the County Administration flagpole, 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, 12:30-1 PM (Voluntary participation by County employees)

**May 14, 2010:** Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce and Partners in Education "Toast a Teacher" Education Awards dinner (Sponsored with a grant from the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program from Supervisor Horn) at 6 PM

**May 31, 2010:** Supervisor Horn, keynote speaker at Memorial Day Remembrance, Eternal Hills Memorial Park, Oceanside at 7 PM

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To receive a copy of Supervisor Horn's e-mail newsletter, "A Word from Supervisor Bill Horn", please contact our office at: **bill.horn@sdcounty.ca.gov**